



SEMI-WEEKLY.

CORVALLIS, BENTON COUNTY, OREGON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1901.

VOL. I. NO. 40.

## LOVE'S CONFESSIONAL.

To you whose every word and deed and thought  
Ring true and honest as three-tested gold,  
The tale of my shortcomings I have brought—  
Now you have given the pardon I besought,  
Forgive the little sins I have not told!

The foolish, petty faults I scarce can name;  
So mean and paltry are they that I fear  
You would not think them worth a word of blame,  
You would but pity and despise them, dear,

And since I love you so in woman's wise,  
Nor am from woman's curse of pride exempt,  
I would far rather read within your eyes  
Hatred, my best-beloved, than content!

Wherefore, to you, whose every deed and thought  
Are crystal clear—you, whom I love too well—  
The tale of my shortcomings I have brought,  
And you have given the pardon I besought,  
Forgive the little sins I cannot tell!

—Smart Set.

## SAVED BY A CONFEDERATE.

THERE had been a daring case of burglary at a farmhouse in Ches-hire. Three men had tied down and gagged the farmer and his two maid servants, and had rifled the house at their leisure.

There were two clues. In the struggle one of the men had left a button from his coat behind, and he had also had his face so severely scratched by one of the maids that the girl said "she was sure she had left her mark upon him."

Weeks passed without any arrest being made, and people began to forget the burglary, until one day a man was arrested at Liverpool. He had with him a bundle containing some of the plunder of the farmhouse. His face bore traces of scratching, and to clinch the matter, his coat wanted a button, and the buttons on it corresponded exactly with that picked up at the scene of the burglary.

His defense was very flimsy. "He knew nothing about the burglary, but had bought the coat and things very cheap of a man in the street." He accounted for the scratches by saying that he was a sailor, and had in that capacity much rough work to do.

There was no defense; the jury found a verdict of "guilty" without leaving the box, and the prisoner was asked if he had anything to say.

"Well, cap'n," he said, "it's hard to be convicted for nothin'. I know no more of this burglary than a baby; when it happened I was fightin' the slaves on the Gold Coast."

There was something in the man's manner that impressed the judge, so he said, not unkindly:

"But surely, prisoner, if your story is true, you must have friends and comrades with whom you could have communicated? It is too late now."

"You're right, cap'n; it's too late. I couldn't communicate with them anyhow, for I don't know where they are. They may be in America, or they may be at the Cape."

"But," urged the judge, "the court has no wish to convict a man who may be innocent. Is there no one who could speak for you?"

"The prisoner looked in a hopeless sort of way round the court.

"No," he began; but just then his eye lighted on a man in the court. "Yes," he added, pointing to him, "there is a gentleman who might speak for me if he would." The judge looked in the direction of the individual pointed at.

"Do you know the prisoner?" he asked.

"No, my lord," was the reply. "I never saw him before in my life."

"Well, Captain Sharpe," said the prisoner, "I know you well enough."

"Is your name Captain Sharpe?" asked the judge. "Yes, my lord," came the reply.

"Well, the prisoner seems to recognize you, so I will ask you to step into the witness box and be sworn, that he may ask you questions."

The captain went into the box, and the following dialogue ensued:

"Are you Captain Sharpe of the war ship 'Vulture'?" asked the prisoner.

"Yes."

"Were you in command of her on the slave coast this spring?"

"I was."

"And wasn't I one of the crew?"

"Most certainly not."

"But, cap'n, don't you remember the slave ship that you boarded?"

"Yes."

"And you yourself led the boarders?"

"Oh, yes; but all that is nothing—you may easily have heard of or read all about that."

"Well, but cap'n, once more—don't you remember the big black steamer who was almost cuttin' you down? Don't you remember the one man who stood between you and death, and what he got for it? Don't you remember that?"

And, brushing back his hair, the prisoner showed a great scar down one side of his head.

The whole court looked on breathless as the captain stared at the scar and at the man till his eyes seemed starting from his head. At length, as if in a dream, he muttered to himself: "Good heavens, is it possible?"

Then slowly and deliberately he got out of the witness box and clambered into the dock, where he seized the pris-

## HOW THE CALENDAR HAS BEEN TINKERED.

NOW that the world has begun another century, every one is interested in the calendar, some people wondering why 1900 was not a leap year, while others are eager to pummel one another over the "beginning of the century" problem. Our calendar is a puzzling affair and has baffled some very wise men since days began to be reckoned by years and years by centuries. The earth is really to blame. If it were only considerate enough to travel around the sun in exactly 365 days we would have little trouble in adjusting our reckoning. The whirling globe takes no account of days, however, but runs around its elliptical track by a schedule of its own.

This schedule presents a problem in fractions that has given wise men no end of trouble. Julius Caesar was first to make an attempt at solving it in 46 B. C., and he blundered woefully. His calendar—the Julian—was made upon the theory that the earth went around the sun in exactly 365 days and 6 hours. So he made his year 365 days long, adding the odd hours and sticking them into a leap year each fourth year. But the true solar year consists of 365 days 5 hours 48 minutes and 45 seconds. In the course of time Caesar's calendar ran ahead of the earth, for it was gaining a whole day every 128 years. In 325 A. D. it had gained four days, and the beginning of spring—which astronomers call the vernal equinox—had receded to March 21, though in Caesar's time it had arrived March 25. This was a serious matter, and the wise men of that particular year called a council to look into it—the council of Nice. Since the globe would not run according to their schedule they decided to humor it a little by altering the latter, so the beginning of spring was changed to March 21.

It was a short-sighted makeshift and did not help things greatly, for as time went on the remorseless earth got farther and farther away from their timetable. Council after council tinkered at the problem, but no solution was found until Pope Gregory XIII. called the very wisest of his wise men to Rome in the sixteenth century, and they sat down in council to find a remedy—sat ten full years discussing the puzzle. The slippery vernal equinox had receded to March 11 by this time, and it took a great deal of thinking to find a way of making it keep its place.

Finally in 1582 a plan was agreed upon. The vernal equinox must be brought back to March 21, and in order to bring it to the date set by the council of Nice ten days must be cut out of the calendar body. It was a startling remedy, and some objected to it as a clumsy one, but as no better was forthcoming it was adopted. The ten days were cut out of October of that year, and to settle the matter to the end of human reckoning, it was agreed that three days should be cut out of every four centuries as well—that each 400th year should be a leap year instead of each 100th. By this plan the error in the present calendar—the Gregorian—will amount to less than a day and a half in 5,000 years.

The new schedule was immediately adopted in all Catholic countries, but Great Britain went on according to the Julian calendar until 1752. The ten days had increased to eleven by this time, and as the gap was widening each year parliament decided to adopt the new scheme. In September of that year the change was made. People went to bed the night of the second, and, though they slept no longer than usual, they woke up on the morning of the 14th. Thus England's equinox caught up with Pope Gregory's, America's likewise, and the birthdays of Washington and Franklin were changed in a way that has troubled many a schoolboy since. Russia still clings to the Julian calendar, however, and as a result our Jan. 1 is Dec. 20 in the Czar's domains.

ones hand, and, turning to the judge, said: "My lord, this was the best man in my crew and he saved my life. Providence has sent me here to save him. He is so changed by illness that I could not recognize him. But there is no mistake now. If you imprison the old bo'sun of the Vulture you must take the captain with him."

Amid cheers and sobs that no one cared to suppress the judge briefly directed the jury to consider their verdict, which they at once did, finding a unanimous "Not guilty."

As they left the town Captain Sharpe might have been heard addressing his companion somewhat as follows:

"Well, old man, we pulled through that business pretty well, I think. It was a near shave, though."

"Captain Sharpe" was nothing less than a confederate, and he had assumed the part of captain to save his companion in crime.—London Evening News.

## MISS ALTA ROCKEFELLER.

Her Hearing Restored, She Will Soon Be Married.

Miss Alta Rockefeller, daughter of John D. Rockefeller, the multi-millionaire oil king, returned from Europe to be married to E. Parmelee Prentice of Chicago. The heiress and prospective bride has been in Vienna for some time and there has undergone a remarkable



MISS ALTA ROCKEFELLER.

surgical operation. Her hearing was almost gone. To restore it Dr. Muller, a Vienna surgeon, destroyed the old ear drum and a new one was grown, the "hammer and anvil" being separated by the insertion of gold plates, thus allowing the drum to grow. It was a delicate operation and there was grave danger of the brain becoming affected, but careful treatment removed all possibility of any such trouble. Now her hearing has been almost entirely restored, but she will go back to Vienna after the marriage for further treatment.

Vienna losing its Trade.

A special committee of the Stock Exchange of Vienna has just submitted a remarkable report to the Austrian Ministry of Finance, directing attention to the steady and alarming decrease in the volume of the business done at the exchange. This is ascribed in part to the domestic political situation. The legislative deadlock has caused stagnation in industry and commerce, whereas in other countries there has been an unprecedented development of trade. The report complains of the effect of anti-capitalist tendencies, which represent all gains and profits to be ill gotten. The profession of merchant has been denounced, it

says, by unprincipled demagogues as disreputable.

The authorities are reproached with having encouraged these evils by undue tolerance. In former times every important commercial firm had its representative on the bourse. Now these agents are kept away by the vexatious proceedings of the authorities, who levy a special impost on them. The report also recommends against the undue pressure of direct taxation on joint stock companies. Direct taxation for them amounts to no less than 12 to 25 per cent of their income, and in some instances to even more. The report directs attention to the unsatisfactory state of the existing laws with regard to litigation resulting from boer operations. The market for railway stock, at one time so flourishing, has been reduced to inconsiderable dimensions, and for this state of affairs also the report holds the government responsible. It remarks that almost every enterprise connected with public traffic has a standing difference of some kind with the administrative authorities.—New York Evening Post.

Odd Snail Dial.

Among the Montanans, Indians a crude form of snail dial is used in hunting to let the squaws, who follow their lords and masters, know whether they may "take it easy" or "hurry up," for they might fare badly if they lagged behind when their husbands were ready for supper. And so the men when hunting erect in the snow a stick at some well-known place and draw the exact line of the stick's shadow in the snow before going on. When the women arrive there with their pots and other cooking utensils they note the new line of the shadow, and by observing the angle which it forms with the line already drawn in the snow they can tell how far ahead their husbands are.

How Philpot Curran Got Even.

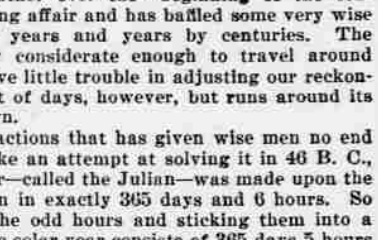
John Philpot Curran, one of the witliest lawyers who ever faced a court, was once arguing a case before Lord Clare, the Irish lord chancellor. Clare cherished a cordial dislike for Curran and, in order to show his contempt for that gentleman, affected to pay no attention to the argument and revolved himself to fondling a moustache which he had brought with him to court. Presently he stooped down ostentatiously to pat the dog. Instantly Curran stopped speaking. The lord chancellor looked up and said: "Go on, Mr. Curran."

"I beg your lordship's pardon," replied Curran; "I thought you were engaged in conversation."

## FOR THE YOUNG FOLKS

Furniture from Match Boxes.

By using ordinary small matchboxes of cardboard of uniform size, very neat toy furniture may be made. For a writing desk, first take out all the drawers and then paste the boxes together in the form of figure 1. On the back side paste a piece of cardboard having the shape of figure 2, being careful that you do not get too much mucilage inside of the boxes. Now



cover it all with brown or black paper. Next cover the front part of the drawers with the same kind of paper and make the drawer handles of thread and a pearl button. Figure 3. When both the boxes and the drawers are entirely dry, insert the drawers. Make the feet from wood or glass beads.

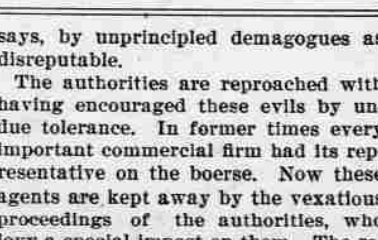
A chest of drawers such as is shown in figure 4 may be made in the same way.

Make your dressing table the same as the writing desk, but the back side out as in figure 5. A piece of tin foil makes the mirror, and the frame is made from gilt paper.

To make a sofa fold a piece of stiff paper once—A B is the fold—and cut it according to the drawing. Spread it out and bend it according to the dotted lines.

To make parlor table fold a piece of stiff paper twice—see cut 1—and cut it according to the drawing. Unfold it; cut 2—and bend the four legs down; then you have a table.

Fold a piece of paper once and cut



according to A. Unfold and bend to a chair, B.

Mrs. Grey's Good Fairies.

Colin was standing by the pile of snowballs he had made, and rubbing his hands to warm them. His sister Madge came running out of the house.

"Look, Col, what I have," she cried happily, holding up her basket. "There are cakes in here, and butter and tea, and all sorts of nice things. We may take it to Mrs. Grey's cottage, down by the pond; so come along."

Colin ran indoors for his gloves, and then the pair started across the snowy park.

Madge walked along sedately, with her hands tucked into her muff and her basket on her arm, while Colin kept running off to chase the birds or follow the tracks made by rabbits in the snow.

"Col, I wish you'd come here a minute," said Madge presently. "I believe Mrs. Grey is out; there isn't any smoke coming from the chimney. Can we get in?"

"Yes, she never locks the door," answered Colin. He lifted the latch and they went in.

"Oh, how untidy it is!" cried Madge. "Look what that naughty Kittle has been doing—the stockings pulled out, and the buttons all over the floor."

"She's left the window open, too!" said Colin. "And the fire's gone out."

"It's the leaves that have made a mess," he said. "I tell you what, Madge; let's pretend we're fairies, and let it all ready before Mrs. Grey comes back."

"The very thing," said Madge, as she put the workbox away. "I'll lay the tea while you sweep up and light the fire."

Colin was ready, and soon the fire was crackling merrily, and the kettle Madge put on began to sing.

Just as they had finished there were footsteps outside. Madge sprang to her feet.

"Let's hide and see what she says!" she cried.

They had only just time to scramble into the cupboard, when Mrs. Grey came in, and oh! she was surprised!

"Why, deary me, whoever did this?" she said. "Nobody's been here that I know of. It must be the two little fairies from the big house!"

"I'm so glad you're pleased," said Colin.

"But how did you know who it was?" asked Madge.

Mrs. Grey pointed to the basket which Madge had left behind, and they all laughed.

Then Mrs. Grey kissed them, and said: "Now you must stay and have some of the tea you have made ready so kindly."—Little Folks.

Mrs. Red Squirrel.

Mrs. Red Squirrel sat in the top of a tree:

"I believe in the habit of saving," said she;

"If it were not for that, in the cold winter weather



I should starve, and my young ones, I know, altogether;

But I'm teaching my children to run and lay up

Every acorn as soon as it drops from its cup.

And to get out the corn from the shocks in the field—

There's a nice hollow tree where I keep it concealed.

We have laid up some wheat and some barley and rye,

And some very nice pumpkin seeds, I have put by;

Best of all, we have gathered in all that we could.

Of beechnuts and butternuts grown in the wood;

For cold days and hard times winter surely will bring.

And a habit of saving's an excellent thing.

"But my children—(you know how young squirrels like play),

"We're plenty, great plenty, already," they'll say.

"We are tired of bringing in food for our store;

Let us all have a frolic and gather no more!"

But I tell them it's pleasant when winter is rough,

If we feel both to use and to give we're enough;

And then I find ere the butternuts bloom in the spring

That a habit of saving's an excellent thing."

—Young Folks.

Traveling Habits of Wild Oats.

Get a head of wild oats and lay it on the table over night, first moistening the oats. Next morning you will discover that the head of oats has crawled off the table and likely enough has made tracks for the outside door. This peculiar gift of traveling lies in the spikes that extend from the coverings of the grains. As the moisture soaks into the head of oats it swells and the spikes change position in such a way as to set the head to tumbling over and over.

The larger and coarser varieties of wild oats have this power of locomotion developed to a remarkable degree, and even domestic oats will develop it if allowed by neglect to degenerate.

An Experiment in Parlor Magic.

Soak a piece of thread in strong salt water, dry it, and repeat two or three times. When thoroughly dry tie one end to a chandelier, and on the other, or lower, end, tie a ring or some small but not too heavy article.

It is now ready for the experiment. Set fire to the thread, and behold the ring does not fall to the floor nor does the thread break.

The explanation is: The thread has in reality been burned, but the salt with which the thread was saturated forms a solid column, and that supports the ring. Varied experiments can be made, using several threads for one article, and, in fact, many others which may suggest themselves to the readers.

CEREAL CROPS OF RUSSIA.

Competition with America Is Already Attracting Attention.

With the return of normal conditions of traffic on the western section of the Siberian railway and a consequent opening of the rolling stock to meet the growing wants of the trade, Russia threatens to become a formidable competitor of this country in the British and European markets in regard to a great variety of agricultural products.

Already Russian butter from beyond the Ural mountains is finding its way into the English market, and according to a report from the British consul at Riga, arrangements are being made for the quick transportation of butter from Western Siberia to connect with the steamship service from Riga to London and Hull. From the port of Libau on the Baltic to the south of Riga there were exported last year 71,855,640 eggs, as against 50,577,000 in 1898, and the export of butter from the same port rose from 275 tons in 1898 to 700 tons in 1899.

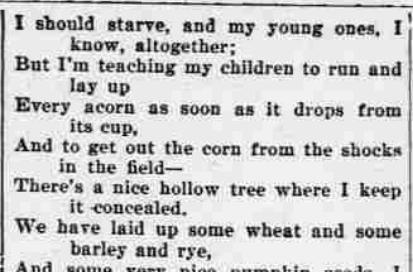
As yet the export of meat from Northern and Eastern Russia has not begun, nor is it to be expected from Western Siberia until the population has increased and the agricultural development of the country has become more advanced. The population, however, is growing rapidly; the immigrants from European Russia having exceeded 500,000 in the last two seasons, and great attention is now given to cattle raising. The passenger and freight rates are kept by the government at the lowest possible point for the purpose of stimulating trade.

Hitherto the export trade in grain and meat from Russia has been almost entirely confined to the south, the grain and cattle being shipped at Black Sea ports and finding their way to the Mediterranean and Western Europe by the Bosphorus and Dardanelles. A certain quantity also crosses the western frontier into Germany, but the tariff restrictions imposed at the instance of the agrarian party in Germany interfere materially with the development of the trade.

It is to afford other outlets for the produce of Northern Russia that the Russian government has taken up the question of opening a direct trade with England and Western Europe by sea, and has ordered the construction of large steamers specially adapted to the purpose. Unless, therefore, events prove unpropitious we shall soon see Russia entering the lists as an active competitor with the other countries exporting foodstuffs and farm produce with an organized system for the handling of the produce from the time it is put into the station on a railway line until it is landed at the place of import.—New York Sun.

Accidents in Iron Mines.

During 1898 there were 226 accidents in nineteen mines on the iron range in Minnesota, resulting in deaths averaging one to every 193 employed. During 1899 there were 421 accidents, with the same average rate of fatalities.



Use of a Syphon.

A syphon may be used for raising water over an elevation of twenty-four or twenty-six feet, but no more. The principle of the action of the syphon is this: The atmospheric pressure on any surface is equal to the weight of a column of water thirty feet high. So that, in a vacuum, when the air is exhausted, a column of water thirty feet high will rise by the pressure of the air on the source of supply to it. Thus a pump, made air-tight, will draw water out of a well thirty feet deep. If there is no loss by friction or leaking of air. But to allow for as much of these as cannot be avoided in practice, a fairly good pump will raise water twenty-five feet. Now, if we arrange a bent pipe as in the diagram, and draw the water over the hill to the outlet by a pump attached to it, and then remove the pump, the water will continue to flow in spite of obstacles over a hill or elevation of twenty-five feet. This is because the longer column of water in the outlet pipe draws the water over the hill, for the reason that as the water flows from the lower end of course it makes a vacuum or

empty space on the other end of the pipe in which there is no air, and the pressure of the air on the water of the spring instantly compels the water to flow down the pipe and over the top and down to the outlet. So that if the well is not over twenty-five or twenty-six feet deep, and the outlet of the pipe is more than this, the water will continue to flow, once it is drawn over the elevation. But, as water always has some air dissolved in it, and this escapes as the water flows up the pipe, it collects at the top, and, in time, makes a large bubble, which stops the water, until the air is got out and a new start is made. This is done by filling the pipe at the place marked at the top, closing each end by taps provided for this, and then starting the flow again.

Grow More Corn.

The farmers who are feeding out timothy hay, and seeing their neighbors selling load after load of it at a good price, while their cattle are kept in good condition and their cows are giving more milk on corn fodder than those that are eating high-priced hay, must feel like asking some one to kick them now, and then come around and kick them again next spring until they promise either to plant corn or sow corn in drills and save the fodder for next winter's use. Yet this is but one small part of their loss. Those who had a plenty of corn fodder to use during the dry time last summer kept their cows up to full milk production then, and began the fall with them in much better condition than were those that had to depend upon the pasture alone, and thus they will have more milk every day and milk more days this winter than those who trusted to the grass crop alone. Yet not one-half the latter will be much more ready to look ahead next spring than they were last spring.—American Cultivator.

Poultry House.

The poultry-house plan here shown has been found very satisfactory in large flocks. Each apartment is intended for a separate flock, and will accommodate twenty fowls, which is as many as may be safely kept to begin with. After one has gained experience fifty fowls may be kept in a house of the right size. The house is twenty feet long, eight feet high in the front, and five in the rear, and fifteen feet wide, which gives room for twenty fowls in each house. These houses may be built in a row of as many as may be desired, giving a wire fenced

yard for each flock, with an open shed which may be used in the summer for the birds to roost in. If this house is made tight by a tar-paper lining, it will be sufficiently warm for the winter. No floor is required; the earth, if it is dry, will be the best; but this should be well covered with coarse sand or sawdust.

The Bacon Type.

The fact that few understand the type of hog which the bacon market requires has perhaps been the main reason why it is generally accepted that it costs more per pound to raise a hog of the bacon type than one of the lard type.

Fertilizers for Small Fruits.

A number of brands of fertilizers have been prepared by the different manufacturers, especially for the small fruits, and 1,000 to 1,500 pounds per acre will give good results. For those who desire to prepare their own mixtures, however, the Michigan station recommends 100 pounds of nitrate of soda, 800 pounds of ground bone and 100 bushels of wood ashes or if these cannot be obtained 400 pounds of potash salts, either muriate or sulphate.



It is not commonly thought that the hogs of the bacon type are improved breeds. It is generally supposed that they are hogs having all the characteristics of the razor-backed native hogs that represent all that is undesirable for feeding purposes. The first point necessary to make clear is that a thin hog is not in any sense a bacon hog. In the bacon hog it is desirable to have about one and a half inches of fat with an abundance of lean flesh in the carcass. It is flesh, muscle or lean meat that is desirable and not in any sense a thin carcass. An important point among the desirable characteristics of the bacon hog is that of form. The side should be as long as possible, with great depth, and levelness from shoulder to hip should be the leading characteristic. The shoulder should not bulge out and the hams should not be pendant and plump as in the case of the lard hog. If a straight edge is laid along the side of the typical bacon hog it should touch every point from the start of the shoulder to the end of the hind quarter.

Horse Talk.

Horse-breeders have every reason to feel joyous over the demand for good horses, both at home and abroad.

The great complaint of the dealers is that they find it difficult to keep up to the demand.

Those who breed and handle good horses will have a long period of prosperity.

Go out to the fairs and shows and some good, large markets, and see what is called for, and you will be cured of breeding scrubs, and your eyes will be opened.

One of the best devices I know of is the safety strap attached to the ends of the shafts.

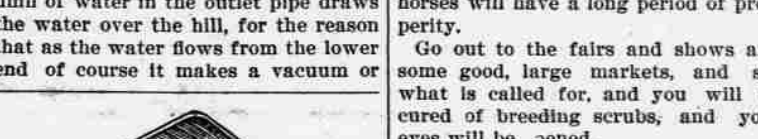
Take a screw-eye and put it exactly in the middle end of each shaft. Sew or rivet a half-inch strap in each eye and join them in the middle with a buckle. When your horse is hitched up, buckle this strap and you will find it impossible for him to catch the rein under the shafts or to run the shafts through the ring of the bit. It is invaluable in fly-time, or in breaking colts. Once used you will have them on every rig.

Wise horsemen employ less of corn or meal and more of oats in warm weather.

Horse stalls should be either four or six feet wide. If five feet the animal is likely to get fast. Four feet is too narrow to get fast and six is wide enough to freely roll in. Have the stalls wide if possible, for your horses, like yourself, will work better after a comfortable rest.

Thoroughbred Stallion.

The thoroughbred stallion Royal Mask, the property of Mr. Edward Mitchell, Derryville, Ennisville, Ireland, is a 10-year-old chestnut, bred



by Mr. R. T. Beddington, got by Mask, dam Princess Victoria by Prince Charles. He won first prize and Croker challenge cup at the Royal Dublin Society's show last month. From his shape as well as his bone and substance he well fulfills the conditions as a weight-carrying hunter sire.

Improve the Home.

If improved financial conditions on the farm have cleared the owner of all indebtedness and left a surplus, such surplus by every right should be used first to improve the conditions of the farm home—to secure some of the comforts so long wanted. Give mother \$150 and tell her to put it where it will do the most good, get a new survey to go to Kirk In, and with it get a light harness for the team, for Norman horses, plow harness and survey don't match well. Take a trip off with your wife and don't go in a suit of \$8 ready-made either. Paint the house and put on a new porch and fix the windmill so that you can have a system of water-works in your home. Send those two boys to a commercial school this winter and pay their bills, and put \$15 or \$20 into good papers and magazines. Entertain your friends and in a general way live so as to get the worth of your money and enjoy life.

GOOD POULTRY HOUSE.

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The fact that few understand the type of hog which the bacon market requires has perhaps been the main reason why it is generally accepted that it costs more per pound to raise a hog of the bacon type than one of the lard type.

Fertilizers for Small Fruits.

A number of brands of fertilizers have been prepared by the different manufacturers, especially for the small fruits, and 1,000 to 1,500 pounds per acre will give good results. For those who desire to prepare their own mixtures, however, the Michigan station recommends 100 pounds of nitrate of soda, 800 pounds of ground bone and 100 bushels of wood ashes or if these cannot be obtained 400 pounds of potash salts, either muriate or sulphate.

Improve the Home.

If improved financial conditions on the farm have cleared the owner of all indebtedness and left a surplus, such surplus by every right should be used first to improve the conditions of the farm home—to secure some of the comforts so long wanted. Give mother \$150 and tell her to put it where it will do the most good, get a new survey to go to Kirk In, and with it get a light harness for the team, for Norman horses, plow harness and survey don't match well. Take a trip off with your wife and don't go in a suit of \$8 ready-made either. Paint the house and put on a new porch and fix the windmill so that you can have a system of water-works in your home. Send those two boys to a commercial school this winter and pay their bills, and put \$15 or \$20 into good papers and magazines. Entertain your friends and in a general way live so as to get the worth of your money and enjoy life.

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